



COMMUNITY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

CITY OF EL PASO FAIR HOUSING TASK FORCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES March 14, 2017

1. A meeting of the Fair Housing Task Force Committee was held at Park O'Rourke Recreation Center and was called to order at 4:06 p.m. by Christine Gallegos, Chairperson.

Board Member	Present	Absent
Rosa Estrada	X	
Christine Gallegos	X	
Adam Gurrola	X	
Todd Miller		X
Marc Salazar	X	
Bill Schlesinger	X	

Ex-Officio members Present: Julio Perez and Omar Martinez
City staff present: Art Rubio and Sandra Pellegrini

Public present: List of attendees available upon request.

2. Introductions: Fair Housing Officer and Committee members introduced themselves at this meeting.
3. Review and approval of minutes dated December 15, 2015. Committee members were asked if there were any questions or revisions.

Motion made by Adam Gurrola and seconded by Christine Gallegos to accept the December 15, 2015 minutes as is.

Ayes: Rosa Estrada, Christine Gallegos, Adam Gurrola, Marc Salazar and Bill Schlesinger

Nays: None

4. Discussion and Action on the 2016 Analysis of Impediments Update

Sandra Pellegrini presented to the committee the updates made to the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice, which included data compilation and analysis, public participation, presentation and review by City staff and Steering Committee. Reviewed with Committee members the proposed plan of action to address the impediments identified in the analysis. Advised Committee members of upcoming presentation of the final document to El Paso City Council on March 21, 2017 and U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) by April 1, 2017.

Committee members had questions on updates to the current Fair Housing Ordinance, Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA) fair housing complaint data, the AFFH tool, and the impact of Fair Housing on the rating criteria for affordable housing projects in the City of El Paso.

Motion made by Bill Schlesinger and seconded by Adam Gurrola to approve the 2016 Update to Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice with the following comments:

- a. That the Fair Housing Ordinance is revised to allow for enforcement**
- b. To request data/information on Fair Housing complaints from TRLA**
- c. To set a goal of direct enforcement research built into future budgets for the city to determine actual level of Fair Housing violations**

Ayes: Rosa Estrada, Christine Gallegos, Adam Gurrola and Bill Schlesinger

Nays: Marc Salazar

5. YWCA Fair Housing Presentation

YWCA Education Manager Patsy Flores presented a summary of the Fair Housing education activities carried by the YWCA throughout the City of El Paso and examples of Fair Housing information provided to citizens at those events. Ms. Flores provided information on outreach goals and measurements for years 42 (FY 2016-2017) and 43 (FY 2017-2018).

Committee members discussed the existence of fair housing issues faced by the population in El Paso, and percentage of population who receives this information. Further discussion took place on actual number of complaints

received by City and YWCA staff as well as complaints referred to Legal Aid for further advice. Committee members discussed cost and feasibility of having local enforcement in El Paso.

6. Discussion and approval of the next meeting date

Committee members agreed to meet second Tuesday of the month. Christine Gallegos suggested to meet every two months. The next meeting was set for May 9, 2017 at 4:00 p.m.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Meeting was adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Prepared by: Sandra Pellegrini